(ख) यदि हां; तो क्या सरकार ने उसमें अन्तर्ग्रस्त विभागीय अधिकारियों/कर्मचारियों का पता लगाने के लिए जांच का आदेश दिया है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो अब तक की गयी कार्यवाही का ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखराम) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) से (घ) मामले की जांच की जा रही है और जांच के परिणाम के आधार पर कार्रवाई की जाएगी ।

Time gap between OB letters and installation of Telephone Connections

4492. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what has been the average time gap between the issuing of OB letters and the actual provision of new telephone connections, since 1st January, 1994;

(b) whether there has been a gap of more than one year in many cases in this regard;

(c) the reasons for issuing OB letters when the DOT does not have the capacity to provide new telephone connections;

(d) whether this causes unnecesary harassment to the people; and

(e) if so, the remedial measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Sir, Telephone connections are normally provided within one month of issue of OB except in cases where the area is technically not feasible. However in the case of bulk release, OBs are issued in anticipation of the commissioning of the exchange and subscriber fittings are carried out in advance. Such telephones get energised on commissioning of the exchange.

(b) The number of cases where there has been a gap of more than one year after issue of OB are few.

(c) to (e) OBs are generally issued only when exchange capacity is available or likely to be available shortly. OBs are issued to all applicants covered under the release including those in technically non-feasible areas. However, of some cases are likely to be delayed due to areas being technically non-feasible the subscribers are informed accordingly, to avail any harassment.

Growth of telecommunication services in Urban and Rural Areas

4493. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Telecommunications has formulated developmental activities for growth of telecommunication services in urban areas and taking the services to rural areas;

(b) if so, what are the details of the activities; and

(c) what will be the resultant percentage growth of the services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The objectives of the 8th Five Year Plan (1992—97) of the Department of Telecommunications envisage:

— Provision of 75 lakhs new telephone connections

— All Gram Panchayats and additional 1,5 lakhs villages to have phone facility by 01-04-1997

— Provision of NSD facility to all exchanges